

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-4, 7-15 and 17 have been amended. New claim 18 has been added. Claim 16 has been cancelled. Claims 1-15 and 17-18 are pending and under consideration.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the amended and new claims are respectfully requested.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

On page 2, item 2, of the Office Action, claim 14 is rejected since the phrase "said application sharing", in line 2 of the claim, lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 14 is amended herein to depend from claim 12. Accordingly, claim 14 includes sufficient antecedent basis and, thus, the rejection thereof should be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 16 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101

On page 2, item 3, of the Office Action, claim 16 is rejected as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 16 is cancelled herein and, thus, the rejection thereof is considered moot.

REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-17 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER ACHACOSO ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,772,229) IN VIEW OF OZZIE ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,640,241)

The rejections of claims 1-17 are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

An embodiment of the present invention includes sending an electronic mail to a plurality of conferee peers, said electronic mail having a URL of a conference host peer described thereon for automatically taking part in a conference by clicking once; and searching a conferee peer at a shortest time location through communication tests from said conference host peer to distribute data, and, after distribution of data, informing remaining conferee peers that said data distributed conferee peer is a mirror of said remaining conferee peers, and searching a conferee peer at a shortest time location through communication tests from said conference host peer

and from said mirror to distribute data, the above processes being repeated until data distribution completes, thereby constructing a distribution route via one or a plurality of other conferee peers serving as said mirror between said conference host peer and particular conferee peers, as recited in independent claim 1.

In other words, for example, when a host intends to hold a conference and sends an electronic mail with the URL to a conferee who is invited to a conference, the conferee can simply click the URL to automatically take part in the conference. At the same time, data can be distributed to peers effectively, in order to the shortest time location, for example, starting from the shortest time location, as a result of searching an optimum route by a trial sending of data required for the conference. Thereby, a distribution route is constructed via one or a plurality of other conferee peers serving as a mirror between the conference host and other conferee peers.

Achacoso et al. (hereinafter "Achacoso") discloses a system in which it is possible to take part in a conference or a video conference by distributing contents via an electronic mail and clicking the hyper link in the electronic mail.

On page 4 of the Action, the Examiner notes that Achacoso does not teach or suggest that the collaboration method is effected through a peer-to-peer network. Hence, the Examiner cites Ozzie et al. (hereinafter "Ozzie") as disclosing this feature.

The portion of Ozzie cited by the Examiner discloses the use of, for example, a high-speed route having a short latency, while comparing direct communication and relay-communication for communication between peers. (Column 22, lines 11-23).

Ozzie relates to a peer-to-peer communication, and describes nothing about the construction of a distribution route via one or a plurality of conferee peers serving as said mirror between said conference host peer and particular conferee peers, as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Independent claims 15 and 17 are amended herein to recite "constructing a distribution route via one or a plurality of other conferee peers serving as said mirror between said conference host peer and particular conferee peers." Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15 and 17 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Dependent claims 2-14 depend from claim 1 and inherit the patentable recitations thereof. Thus, for at least the reasons provided above for independent claim 1, as well as other

patentable features, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-14 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Claim 16 is cancelled herein and, thus, the rejection thereof is considered moot.

NEW INDEPENDENT CLAIM 18

New claims 18 depends from claim 1 and inherits the patentable recitations thereof. Thus, for the reasons provided above for amended claim 1 and other patentable features recited in new claim 18, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 18 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. Further, all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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